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## Town looks to expand ticketing powers

Public works supervisors may be given authority to ticket cars in way of snow plow drivers

## By JASON MISNER

The Champion

Milton is poised to expand its municipal powers to ticket cars, trucks, vans and SUVs illegally parked and in the way of snow plow drivers.

Pending town council approval, all six public works supervisors will be given bylaw powers to ticket vehicles parked in snow routes. A municipality must approve giving bylaw enforcement powers to those who don't normally have them.

Town council was expected to vote on the issue last night. Recommendations came from the administration and planning committee last week.

The supervisors' new powers would take effect immediately, and would stay in effect until town council votes to take them away.

The way it works is if a snow plow operator was having difficulty in plowing a street because a vehicle is illegally parked, the supervisor could be called to the area to ticket and have the vehicle towed away.

It all could get pretty costly. The fine for parking in a snow route is \$30, the towing fee starts at \$45 and there's a \$15 per day impounding fee.

In Toronto or Mississauga, fines for parking in a snow route run between \$200 and \$400.

The Town receives about 40 calls per year from residents complaining about vehicles illegally parked on streets, and it wants to avoid future problems.

With a few weeks of winter still left, it's safe to say we'll get more snow, and if you're not careful, parking tickets.

Jennifer Reynolds, Milton's director of community services, said the intent of the new bylaw powers is to ensure streets are plowed quickly.

"This will allow us to take a bit of action, particularly after hours and on weekends to benefit public safety and to improve snow removal," she said.

Milton employs two full-time bylaw officers, who work 12-hour shifts each weekday, to serve a population of more than 42,000. They deal with everything from noise and animal complaints to enforcing the smoking bylaw.

It's also been recommended that six others be given authority to enforce the Town's bylaws at various condominium complexes. This means these new officers would be employed by the condo owners and only enforce the bylaws in the designated area.

And, two bylaw officers have been approved to work for Conservation Halton (CH). They will enforce compliance, like parking, in conservation lands on Milton property. CH will pay their wages.

The bonus is nearly all of the revenue from tickets goes to the Town.

In CH's case, the Town gets 60 per cent of revenue.